

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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12

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /010 W

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P R 200942Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6397

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

UNCLAS SINGAPORE 4818

FOR EA/EP GEBER FROM BLOCH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: STRA, SN

SUBJ: TRAVEL BY FORMER AMBASSADOR DAVID KENNEDY

REF: STATE 258151

1. PROSPECTIVE VISIT (TRANSIT STOP) OF AMBASSADOR KENNEDY TO SINGAPORE (REFTEL) IS OF MORE THAN PASSING INTEREST IN LIGHT OF YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH ME AND SINGAPORE'S ABC CHAIRMAN, ROGER O'NEIL, AT RECENT APCAC JAKARTA MEETING. WE KNOW, OF COURSE, THAT GOS IS VERY INTERESTED IN ATTRACTING INCREMENTAL U.S. INVESTMENT TO SINGAPORE AND THE EMBASSY, AS WELL AS THE ABC, WISHES TO BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE IN THIS ENDEAVOR. AS YOU WILL RECALL, YOU SUGGESTED THAT AN ORGANIZATION SIMILAR TO THE US-KOREA ECONOMIC COUNCIL, WHICH KENNEDY HEADS, MIGHT BE USEFUL IN PROMOTING SUCH INVESTMENT.

2. WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE THIS POSSIBILITY FURTHER WITH KENNEDY EARLY NEXT MONTH, IF HIS SCHEDULE PERMITS. HOWEVER, IT OCCURS TO US THAT WHAT IS APPROPRIATE IN KOREAN CONTEXT MAY NOT BE DESIRABLE FOR SINGAPORE AND TO GOS POLICY MAKERS. WE WOULD, THEREFORE, APPRECIATE RECEIVING BY TELEGRAM INFORMATION ON SALIENT POINTS OF U.S.-KOREA ECONOMIC COUNCIL'S OPERATIONS SO THAT WE MAY MAKE OUR OWN DETERMINATION REGARDING APPLICABILITY OF COUNCIL CONCEPT TO SINGAPORE. WE COULD THEN SOUND-OUT APPROPRIATE GOS OFFICIALS AND, IF THEIR REACTION IS POSITIVE, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT AMBASSADOR KENNEDY CONSIDER SPENDING UNCLASSIFIED

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ONE OR TWO DAYS HERE TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT WITH INTERESTED

GOS OFFICIALS AND APPROPRIATE MEMBERS OF LOCAL AMERICAN BUSINESS
COMMUNITY. HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

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